

That we Through His Poverty might be Rich 2 Cor 8:9  
There are gonna be a lot of people celebrating Christmas this year and will not really know why they are celebrating it. They know it has to do with the birth of Jesus. But they do not understand why we get in such an uproar about it. Other great men have been born but are not celebrated like this.

I think it is best summed up by an old Christmas hymn Good Christian men rejoice. Good Christian men rejoice with heart + Soul + Voice now ye hear of endless bliss Jesus Christ was born for this He hath opened the heavenly door and man is blessed forever more, Christ was born for this

Door swings both ways it is an exit and an entrance. This is the meaning of Christmas, Jesus walked out of heaven so you and I can walk into heaven. In 2 Cor 8:9 in this verse we can see why we have so much to shout about. There are 3 reasons why good Christian men can rejoice

I. We envision The Glory of God "through he was rich"

A. Here in this one phrase we are reminded that Christ did not begin in a stable in Bethlehem but was rooted in eternally past being known as the architect of days, wealthy beyond <sup>comprehension</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>eyes</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>men</sup>.

B. We See the Wealth of His Position - None of us will ever truly appreciate Christmas until we realize that before Jesus was a babe in a manger in Heaven he was a King on the throne in Heaven. He lived in a place where they pave the streets with Gold. Where the wall of the city are made of Jasper. Where the Gates of the city are of Pearl. Never about there a moment that he did not enjoy the praise of Seraphim, Legions of angels waited upon the word of His mouth. <sup>Is 9:7 said of Jesus he was</sup> <sup>omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient</sup> the Mighty God! Wealth of Omnipotent Power, Omnipresent Presence

C. We See the Wealth of His Creation - Col 1:16

All creation was for him and for his pleasure. He not only controlled the universe of God, he owned it as creator. He could point to the Galaxies, the stars, the earth and rightfully say "Mine".

There is not one square inch of this universe over which Christ does not have rightful ownership to. How do you measure such wealth? How do you account per a dollar figure on the ownership of all. You don't you bow down to it.

Colossians 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Philippians 2:8-9 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

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## II. We Encounter the Grace of God

A. The story of Christ is one not of rags to riches but richesto rags. Paul is using the richesto rags story of Christ to show to us the magnitude of the Grace of God.

B. At His Entrance into the world - Though he was rich yet he became poor. How did Jesus become poor? Philippians 2:6-8 expresses it best. Some men say the great ~~at~~ miracle was the resurrection. But w/o the incarnation there would be no resurrection. Now when God became flesh that's the greatest miracle. If God could come to earth and live an earthly life, surely he could conquer an earthly death. In the early days of railroad ... Jesus left the throne on right side for a harm on wrong side of tracks. Egypt - City of Gorge That's who

C. At His Existence in the World - The Lord Jesus who created everything in heaven & earth entered and lived a lonely existence as you and I. Born in a borrowed womb, hurried in borrowed time, paid taxes with borrowed money from fish, fed 5000 with borrowed loaves had his last meal in a borrowed upper room, to ride to crucifixion rode a borrowed donkey, no room for his birth nor here in His life and no grave for His death. Where Grace! He will take care. <sup>I must go to</sup>

III. We Enjoy the Goodness of God  
A. What is it truly to be rich. By Gods <sup>own</sup> standards or mans standards. God tells us what <sup>riches</sup> are.  
B. A Position of Riches - A Christian is a person that has Christ in them and they are in Christ. Their position is in Jesus Christ. In Matt 3:17 Think about this. If God looks at Christ and is completely satisfied and we are in Christ then when God looks upon us in Christ he is satisfied. All the other religions of the world scrimp, claw, try to find favor w/ God. They beg, bargain, work and plead for it. 'Necessity is the mother of invention'. In Christ I have found favor. <sup>That's what He came for</sup>  
C. A Promise of Riches - Note also that if Jesus owns you then look at Romans 8:16 to see what you own. Everything Jesus owns I own. To inherit means share and share alike. A person can really find no meaning in the giving and receiving of Christmas gifts, until they receive the gift of God, eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus was the greatest Gift ever given. You cant get any richer.  
IV Closing: then knowing that at the end of life you have heaven as your home, That old Christmas hymn -  
- do with -

Matthew 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Nearer, nearer to my Lord,  
Nearer I can not be,  
For in the person of His Son  
I'm just as close as He

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;...

Good Christian Men Rejoice, with heart and soul and voice  
Now ye need not fear the grave Jesus Christ was born to  
save. Call ye one and call ye all, to gain his everlasting hall,  
Christ was born to save. Christ was born to save.